(b) if so, the names of the districts, State-wise, category-wise subsidy/financial concession provided to all categories; and

(c) if not, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to narrow regional imbalances in the industrial sector of various industrially backward States?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) In pursuance of Government's policy to narrow regional imbalances in industrial sector and to develop backward areas, Government had announced in April, 1983 a revised central incentive scheme which classifies backward areas into three categories viz. 'A', 'B' & 'C'. The details of the 'No-Industry Districts' etc. and incentives available to them are given in the booklet, 'Incentives for industries in backward areas' (updated upto October 20, 1986), copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. However, Government have undertaken a review of the scheme.

Sick industrial units in Andhra Pradesh

1527. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many industrial units are reported sick in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what is the total amount of finance relating to banks, involved in those sick units; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government to revive those sick units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. As per the latest data available from it, the number of sick industrial units and amount outstanding against them in the State of Andhra Pradesh are given below:

Large sick units as at the end of June 1986		SSI Sick units as at the end December, 1985	
No. of Units	Amount Outstanding (Rs. crores)	No. of Uuits	Amount Outstanding (Rs. crores)
39	114.28	8694	62.82

(c) To meet the problem of industrial sickness in the country, the Government have taken various steps. The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening of the monitoring system and for arresting industrial sickness at an incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time. The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units on merits of each case. In addition, Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation, namely "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985" which provides for setting up of a quasijudicial body designated as the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner. An important feature of this Act is that it provides for time limits for completion of action at various stages by the BIFR as well as other agencies who are concerned with revival and rehabilitation of sick industrial companies. The BIFR has become operational with effect from 15th May, 1987.

Government have also liberalised recently the Margin Money Scheme with a view to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in reducing the incidence of sickness in small scale units. Moreover, RBI have also issued guidelines separately to the banks for dealing with the problems of small scale units.